

NEW JERSEY GAZETTE

Volume 2 • Issue 2

Winter 2004

The Newsletter of the New Jersey Historical Commission, the Historic Trust and the State Archives

WELCOME TO THE NEW JERSEY GAZETTE

The *New Jersey Gazette* is produced in partnership by the New Jersey State Archives, the New Jersey Historical Commission, and the New Jersey Historic Trust. These three state agencies dedicated to the preservation and promotion of New Jersey's heritage have come together with the Public Policy Center of New Jersey, which publishes *New Jersey Heritage*, to produce the *New Jersey Gazette*.

NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST ANNOUNCES GRANT SCHEDULE

Matching grants for preservation planning and capital preservation projects will be awarded in 2004 from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund. Visit www.njht.org or call (609) 984-0473 for more information.

Applications Available: March 1, 2004
Deadline: May 3, 2004
Notification: September 2004

HISTORICAL COMMISSION SETS DEADLINES FOR GRANTS, PRIZES

For information on New Jersey Historical Commission grants and prizes, call Ms. Mary Murrin at (609) 984-0954 or visit the NJHC web site at www.newjerseyhistory.org.

General Operating Support Grants:

Letter of Intent: March 3, 2004
Deadline: April 1, 2004
Notification: July 2004

Projects Grants:

Deadline: September 15, 2004
Notification: November 2004

Minigrants and Archival Evaluation

Projects:

No deadline.

Prize for Teaching Black History:

Deadline: October 1, 2004
Notification: January 2005

Prize for Scholarly Publication:

Deadline: January 2, 2005
Notification: September 2005

Caucus Archives Project Evaluation Service:

Deadline: None. Apply when convenient.

MONUMENTAL STATE LAWS RETURN TO PUBLIC HANDS

During the last year, the State Archives received a number of priceless donations from private sources. Three of these gifts are particularly exciting as they include caches of original enrolled laws of the Colony and State of New Jersey. The first came from the New Jerseyana collection of Elsie O. and Philip D. Sang, and was presented to the State Archives by their nephew George E. Sang through Special Collections and Archives, Rutgers University Libraries. Twenty-four manuscript laws and resolutions of the Colony and State of New Jersey are among the collection of documents. One law concerns stray "Horse Kind and Neat Cattle" and the process by which the town crier was to announce them. The legislation dates from 1677 and is the earliest signed New Jersey law known to survive, and one of only a few extant from the colony's proprietary period.

The remainder of the laws in the Sang donation span the years 1783 to 1862. Several pivotal acts of the legislature are among them: the first law licensing physicians in 1783; the act to carry into effect the recently ratified United

States Constitution, 1788; the act ratifying the Bill of Rights in 1789; incorporation of the Medical Society of New Jersey, 1790; and New Jersey's resolution for the preservation of the Union at the start of the Civil War, January 29, 1861. Mr. Sang is a commodities trader from Chicago and a Rutgers graduate. His family has donated other historical manuscripts to Rutgers University Libraries. However, as government records these original laws were rightfully returned to the State.

The second gift came from Michael Bernstein, an environmental consultant and resident of Chalfont, Pennsylvania. Mr. Bernstein donated four original manuscript laws and one original bill passed by New Jersey's colonial legislature. These large documents contain beautifully calligraphied text written by quill pen. Two documents bear the signature of Royal Governor Thomas Boone, and two others carry the signature of William Franklin, New Jersey's last royal governor. Although he was the son of Benjamin Franklin, a Pennsylvania signer of the Declaration of Independence, William Franklin remained loyal to King George III. He went into exile after the Revolutionary War.

(Continued on Page 5)



COLONIAL LAWS DISPLAYED: Michael Bernstein, second from left, views a display of colonial laws he donated to the New Jersey State Archives. Joining Mr. Bernstein are his mother, Ursula Bernstein; Archives Chief Joseph R. Klett, left; and Division Director Karl J. Niederer, right.

HERITAGE TOURISM IN NEW JERSEY

BENEFITS OUR HISTORY AND OUR ECONOMY

Did you know that tourism is the second largest business in the state of New Jersey, second only to the pharmaceutical industry? Each year, heritage tourism in New Jersey brings more than \$430 million to our state's economy. Defined as "traveling to experience the places, artifacts, and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past," heritage tourism is widely recognized as one of the most economically significant segments of the tourism industry.

Partners in Prosperity: The Economic Benefits of Historic Preservation in New Jersey, published in 1998 by the New Jersey Historic



NJ HISTORIC TRUST

Trust, noted that "compared with other tourists, heritage tourists are more affluent, take longer trips (often in family groups), plan further in advance, spend more money, and return home more satisfied." For example, heritage travelers spend an average of \$252 for an overnight trip, compared with \$157 spent by the general New Jersey traveler.

In recognition of the significant role that heritage tourism can play in supporting historic sites, as well as contributing to the state's economy, the New Jersey Historic Trust now includes the preparation of heritage tourism program plans as an eligible activity for \$5,000 to \$50,000 Historic Site Management matching grants, part of the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund. One of the program's goals is to help historic property owners and managers broaden public awareness and enjoyment of historic sites. The schedule for the 2004 grant round is printed on the front page of this newsletter. For grant applications, consult the Trust's website at www.njht.org or call (609) 984-0473.

Below is a sampling of some noteworthy heritage tourism projects in New Jersey. Several featured sites have been preserved with funding from the New Jersey Historic Trust's programs.

Morris County Visitors Center

The Morris County Visitors Center is aggressively developing a countywide heritage tourism initiative. One of the first steps was a "Heritage Tourism Assessment," which itemizes more than 50 recommendations for developing partnerships, improving the heritage tourism experience in the county, and establishing a marketing plan. The Morris County Visitors Center has already implemented many of these recommendations. The Center publishes two walking tour maps, including one for children.



REVOLUTIONARY TIME: Special events like this one at Morven in Mercer County, attract day visitors and encourage overnight visitors as well. Morven's restoration was assisted with funding from the New Jersey Historic Trust.

Its user-friendly web site, which served more than 120,000 visitors in 2002, publishes information on attractions, calendar items, event rentals, and group tours. For information, visit www.morristourism.org or call (973) 631-5151.

Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts

Cape May has long been a major tourist destination in New Jersey, and its historic buildings are some of the town's great attractions. The Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts (MAC), a nonprofit cultural organization that administers the Emlen Physick Estate and the Cape May Lighthouse, has worked for many years with local businesses to promote heritage tourism. It hosts 350,000 visitors annually. Recently, the MAC expanded its heritage tourism activities by offering package tours for individuals or groups of 20 or more, including lodgings, meals, and sightseeing. Among the offerings are trolley tours of the historic district, house tours, walking tours, and seasonal events. These events include "Victorian Week" in October, which has been named "A Top 100 Event in North America" by the American Bus Association. For more information, sign up to receive the online publication *Victorian Cape May News*, visit www.capemaymac.org, or call (609) 884-5404.

Four Centuries in a Weekend

Every October, the Four Centuries in a Weekend Heritage Festival attracts thousands of visitors to 22 historic sites throughout Union County. Organized by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, the Four Centuries program received the Heritage Tourism Award at the 2001 Governor's Conference on Tourism in recognition of its success in "encouraging the awareness, understanding and appreciation of the state's history, traditions, and culture." The program includes a self-guided tour book, driving tour brochure and county tour maps produced by the AAA of New Jersey Automobile Club, and an activity book for children. For more information about this event contact the county Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at (908) 558-2550 or visit www.unioncountynj.org/cultural/index.htm.

Delaware River Region Tourism Council

Communities in the Delaware River Region are working cooperatively to attract both day-trippers and overnight visitors to the wealth of historic, cultural, entertainment, and recreational destinations in the area. The Delaware River Region Tourism Council is a nonprofit organization that promotes tourism throughout Mercer, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem counties. For the past

three years, the council has received generous grants from the State of New Jersey to help fund its many initiatives that include the creation and operation of the Visit South Jersey web site, which directs visitors to historic attractions, accommodations, and other resources. The council will be working with the newly created South Jersey Tourism Corporation, which is funded by the Delaware River Port Authority and promotes tourism to Camden, Burlington, and Gloucester Counties. Both organizations are headquartered in Camden and work with the Camden Waterfront Marketing Bureau. For more information, call (856) 757-9400 or visit www.visitsouthjersey.com.

Crossroads of the American Revolution

Efforts are currently underway to establish New Jersey's first National Heritage Area, which will be known as the Crossroads of the American Revolution. The initiative, which would include national, state and county parks and historic sites run by non-profit historical associations, will be headquartered at Morristown National Historical Park. For information on this initiative, call (973) 539-2016, ext. 201, or visit the following two web sites: www.nps.gov/crossroads or www.state.nj.us/state/225commission/.

New Jersey Women's History Trail

The State Historic Preservation Office and the Alice Paul Centennial Foundation are currently working on the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail Project. This project includes a



FROM ANOTHER AGE: Acorn Hall, a Victorian-era historic site in Morris County, is a popular attraction for visitors. Acorn Hall's restoration has been funded with assistance from the New Jersey Historic Trust.

comprehensive inventory of 300 women's historic sites throughout the state, as well as an intensive survey of 150 of these resources. Eventually, a number of these sites will be selected for a New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail.

For further information, call the Historic Preservation Office at (609) 292-2023 or visit www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo.

Office of Travel and Tourism

The state Office of Travel and Tourism, part of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission, promotes tourism through its vibrant web site, www.visitnj.org. Free tour publications are available on a variety of subjects, including historic lighthouses and African American history. Last year, the office presented 34 Tourism Cooperative Marketing Grants in amounts between \$2,500 and \$10,000. The office cosponsors the Governor's Conference on Tourism, which recognizes the significant role heritage tourism plays in the visitor-based experience. The March 2004 conference will mark the third time that a heritage tourism award will be presented. Last year's winner, the Bayshore Discovery Project in Cumberland County, is supported by grants from the Historic Trust.


The owners and stewards of historic sites in New Jersey work hard to preserve and interpret these national treasures. Because of this diligent work, heritage tourism offers an exciting opportunity for the long-term financial stability of these sites and for the well being of the state economy in general. Be sure to visit New Jersey's historic treasures and enjoy the heritage our state has to offer.



BRINGING FARM LIFE TO LIFE: At Fosterfields in Morris County, children benefit from special programming. The Visitor Center created a special walking tour for children to share with their families. The site has received four grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust.


Historical Commission Awards \$351,048 In Project Grants to 33 Recipients

The New Jersey Historical Commission has awarded \$351,048 in fiscal year 2004 Project Grants to 33 organizations and individuals from Cape May to Bergen County. The

 projects funded include a program on the history of women, research on ethnic transition in a Trenton neighborhood, the archival processing of a collection of rare glass negatives, a summer institute for teachers on African American history, and the establishment of a learning center at a historic house museum.

Project Grant awards ranged from \$425 to \$20,000. The next deadline for Project Grant applications will be September 15, 2004. The following projects received funding:

Absecon Lighthouse, Atlantic City: \$15,000 for research and design of an exhibition about the Fresnel Lens.

Alice Paul Institute, Mount Laurel: \$10,000 to develop a three-part program series on the history of women in New Jersey for teachers, students, and the general public. 

Battleship New Jersey Museum, Camden: \$15,000 to research and develop an exhibition on New Jerseyans who served on the battleship.

Bongiorno Productions, Newark: \$10,000 for production costs of a documentary film about the Newark riots of 1967 and their aftermath.


Burlington County Historical Society, Burlington: \$4,048 to upgrade collection management software and train staff members in its use.

Crossroads of the American Revolution, Bound Brook: \$8,000 for a public forum on the proposed Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area.

David Sarnoff Library, Princeton: \$3,000 for an oral history project documenting technical, commercial and social life at RCA labs between 1942 and 1987.


Friends of the New Jersey State Museum, Trenton: \$20,000 to research and design an exhibition focusing on the history and development of the glass, iron, and ceramics industry in New Jersey.

Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass.: \$8,650 to support the publication of a book on metropolitan fragmentation in northern New Jersey.


Heritage Trail Association, Bound Brook: \$13,000 for planning of a history learning center at the Van Horne House. 

Historic Cold Spring Village, Cape May: \$15,000 for an intensive survey of 20 historic buildings.

Historical Society of Princeton: \$15,000 for an exhibition based on the Princeton Recollector.


Hoboken Historical Museum: \$18,178 for an exhibition on the interaction of city dwellers with domesticated animals in the context of the history of public health and social policy. 

Jersey City Public Library: \$4,500 to develop a keyword searchable database of a collection of 2,700 postcards.

Merchants & Drovers Tavern Museum Association, Rahway: \$7,000 to develop children's camp programs focusing on archaeology and tavern entertainment. 


Monmouth County Archives, Manalapan: \$5,425 to reformat local news videotapes.

Monmouth County Historical Association, Freehold: \$16,000 to organize and re-house a significant collection of glass plate and film negatives.

Naval Air Station Wildwood: \$10,000 to research and design an exhibition about Trenton's contributions to the war effort during World War II. 

New Brunswick Public Library: \$425 to place the New Brunswick Census of 1912 on CD and on the web.

New Jersey Council for the Humanities, Trenton: \$10,000 for a summer institute on new scholarship in African-American history.

New Jersey Historical Society, Newark: \$13,400 to research and develop an exhibition about civil unrest in Newark and elsewhere in the 1960s. 

Susan Nowicki, Montclair: \$5,000 for dissertation research on the suburban development of Montclair.

Plainfield Public Library: \$15,000 to digitize images of Plainfield architecture for placement on a web site.

Preservation Partners, Crosswicks: \$18,045 to publish *Women's Place in New Jersey History*.

Public Policy Center of New Jersey, Trenton: \$8,750 to support the publication of *New Jersey Heritage* magazine.

Rutgers University, Department of History: \$4,840 to support the department's undergraduate history internship program.


Rutgers University, SCILS Professional Development Studies: \$4,000 for a scholarship for one New Jersey collection professional to the 2004-2005 Preservation Management Institute.

Rutgers University, Special Collections & University Archives: \$10,000 for original cataloging of items in the Sinclair Collection.

Save Ellis Island Foundation, Gladstone: \$15,037 for design and fabrication of an exhibition on the history of the Ellis Island Hospital Complex and the immigrant arrival experience.

The College of New Jersey (Rachel Adler), Ewing: \$14,000 for research on ethnic transition in the Chambersburg neighborhood

Trenton Historical Society: \$15,000 to prepare a nomination of the Trenton Ferry District to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places

Water Works Conservancy, Oradell: \$10,000 to research a book on the history of the Hackensack Valley, the Hackensack River, and the Water Works, to be aimed at grades 4-8. 

William Paterson University, Wayne: \$10,000 to support New Jersey History Day

11th History Issues Convention Features Workshops, Panels, and Awards Luncheon

The 11th annual History issues Convention will be held on Wednesday, March 31, at the Trenton War Memorial. The theme of the event will be "Building Alliances," and the goal will be to explore how the history community can work together with other public interest groups such as the arts, tourism, recreation, teachers, and libraries.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Bruce Craig, director of the National Coalition for History, a Washington, D.C., organization that represents the historical and archivist community on Capitol Hill. Dr. Craig publishes the *Washington Update*, a respected monthly newsletter on national history issues. His keynote address will be "Building a History Alliance: Lessons From the Past, Opportunities for the Future."

The event also will feature two panel

discussions. The first will consist of representatives from the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association, the New Jersey Library Association, the New Jersey Council for History Education, the New Jersey Travel Industry Association, ArtPride, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities. A second panel discussion will consist of elected officials, including municipal and county officers and members of the state Legislature. There will be an awards luncheon, followed by workshops on history education and heritage tourism.

The registration fee of \$30 covers all events, along with a continental breakfast and lunch. To obtain a registration brochure, call the New Jersey Historical Commission at (609) 984-3458 or download a brochure from the web at the NJHC website, newjerseyhistory.org.

The annual history convention is sponsored by the New Jersey Historical Commission and the



Dr. Bruce Craig

Advocates for New Jersey History, and is cosponsored by historical societies, museums, and history organizations around the state.

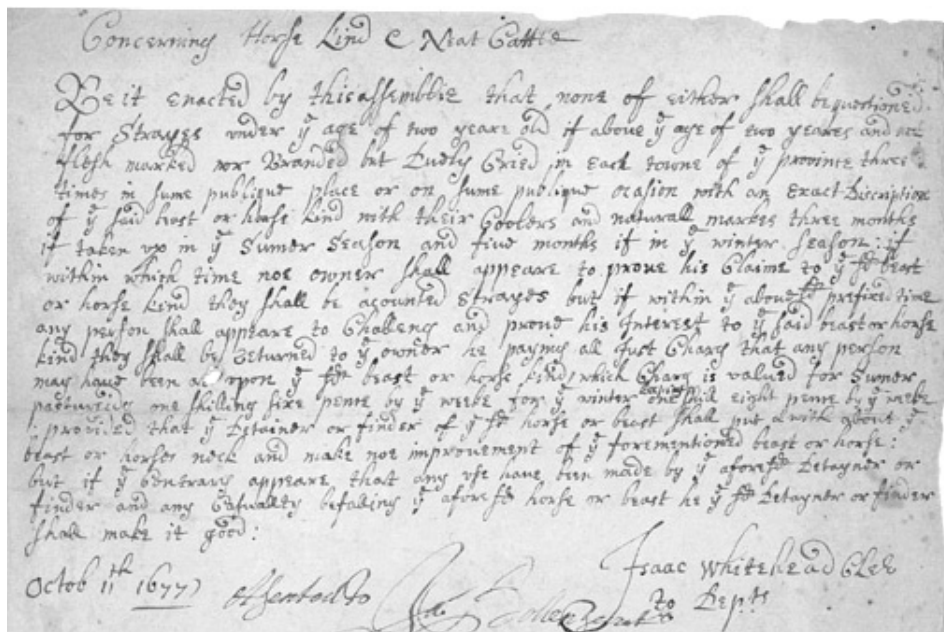
MONUMENTAL STATE LAWS ARE RETURNED TO PUBLIC HANDS

(Continued from Page 1)

The laws bring to life many of the issues common to political debate in colonial America. One of the acts relates to preventing the sale of lottery tickets and other types of gambling. This document, dated 1760, is still held together by its original ribbon and includes an embossed paper seal. Another 1767 law is entitled "An act appointing commissioners for supplying the several barracks erected in the Colony of New Jersey with furniture and other necessities for accommodating the King's troops...." Mr. Bernstein inherited the five manuscripts from his parents. They are believed to have been missing from the State House for many decades, if not centuries.

The Ford Family Trust of Scottsdale, Arizona, donated the third collection, consisting of three original enrolled laws of especial importance to New Jersey numismatists. These acts, dating from 1786 and 1787, authorized the minting of New Jersey coinage: namely copper pennies. Two of the manuscripts bear the signature of William Livingston, first governor of New Jersey. The documents were returned to the State through Michael Hodder of Stack's Rare Coins, New York City. The State Archives and the Department of State deeply appreciate the Ford Family Trust's and Mr. Hodder's recognition of the manuscripts as property of the State of New Jersey and their efforts to restore them to public custody.

The priceless items included in these three donations represent milestone, historical decisions made by the State of New Jersey and its legislators. Their arrival at the State Archives is a



ON THE HOOF: New Jersey's earliest extant signed law, a 1677 act of the West Jersey Assembly, prescribes the process for publicizing "Horse Kind and Neat Cattle." The law was one of several recently donated to the State Archives by George E. Sang.

key event in New Jersey history circles, and cause for great celebration. To acknowledge the Sang and Bernstein gifts, the Department of State and Division of Archives & Records Management hosted a press event and display in the Archives' Manuscript Reading Room on March 14, 2003. The event featured selected portions of the two donations along with several rare documents from the State Archives' vault, including King George III's 1762 appointment of Governor Franklin, New Jersey's original 1787 Ratification

of the United States Constitution, and its original manuscript copy of the Bill of Rights. The gift from the Ford Family Trust was acknowledged privately. However, one of the three coinage laws was displayed at Indian King Tavern, Haddonfield, shortly after its donation as part of a historical display in conjunction with the centennial celebration of New Jersey's state historic sites. The New Jersey copper penny was adopted as a symbol of the centennial; hence the donation of manuscript coinage laws was especially timely.

'EXPLORING YOUR JERSEY ROOTS'

Fall Lecture Series Breaks New Ground

A groundbreaking nine-week series of programs on New Jersey genealogy, entitled *Exploring Your Jersey Roots*, debuted on September 10th at the State Archives. The lectures were co-sponsored by the Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM) and the Genealogical Society of New Jersey (GSNJ), two of the state's leading organizations dedicated to educating the public about historical and genealogical resources.

The series, the first of its kind in the Garden State, presented a broad range of topics covering key resources and research strategies. Ellen R. Callahan, Archives Collection Manager, gave the introductory session on "Genealogical Resources at the New Jersey State Archives." This overview established the ground-



work for the Archives staff to present additional lectures detailing specific sets of genealogically valuable collections. Among them was an in-depth review of military records presented by Reference Archivist Catherine Stearns Medich. Reference Supervisor Bette M. Epstein and Collection Management Archivist Sean A. Curry highlighted the State Archives' holdings of land and court records, respectively.

Two sessions focused on electronic resources for family history. Joseph R. Klett, Chief of Archives, gave an in-depth tutorial on the State Archives' online catalog and in-house databases. This was complemented by a second session on other electronic sources for New Jersey research offered by GSNJ Trustee John Konvalinka. The former presentation covered the Archives' browsable catalog of manuscript and microfilm holdings, imaged collections, and online finding aids recently unveiled at the State Archives' web site, www.njarchives.org. The



ASKING THE EXPERTS: Joan Lowry, left, and Suzanne Nurnberg, respectively president and treasurer of the Genealogical Society of New Jersey, offer advice on family history research during the "Ask the Experts" session of the "Exploring Your Jersey Roots" series.

latter talk highlighted websites of several repositories and other Internet sources providing important genealogical information relevant to New Jersey.

"Exploring Your Jersey Roots" also included sessions designed to instruct genealogists on methods for preserving family papers and for organizing and publishing research findings. Janet T. Riemer, Preservation Archivist and Past President of GSNJ, spoke on "Preserving Your Family Documents." She offered practical instruction for care and storage of heirloom family papers and tips for conserving the irreplaceable documents and photographs that

bear ancestors' names and faces. GSNJ Trustees C. Arthur Lawton III and Joseph R. Klett gave a joint session on "Organizing and Publishing Your Research Findings." Their presentation offered advice and observations relative to organizing genealogical files, citing sources, and compiling journal articles and books.

The series concluded on November 5th with twin "Ask the Experts" sessions. Participants presented genealogical challenges to a panel of archivists and professional genealogists. The sessions were held in workshop format, with open discussion. Most of the questions had been submitted in advance, so the "experts" were able to provide detailed research strategies to help solve genealogical mysteries. The "Ask the Experts" event, in content and participant enthusiasm, surpassed all expectations. The Archives staff and GSNJ trustees worked together to help novice family historians and veteran researchers with their most challenging quests.

The State Archives and GSNJ have received excellent feedback and expressions of interest from the public with regard to the genealogy series. Its success has encouraged both organizations to continue to co-sponsor workshops, lectures, and other opportunities to educate New Jersey's genealogical community.

Historical Commission Reprints Two of its Best-Sellers

The NJHC has reprinted two of its most popular publications. These books have been used extensively by high school and college classes as well as the general public.

New Jersey Women: A History of Their Status, Roles, and Images, by Carmela Ascolese Karnoutsos, focuses on the efforts of women to achieve better lives for themselves and their families and a greater voice in society through work in reform, social welfare, and political activism. The 122-page book, published in 1997, includes illustrations, notes, and bibliography.

Afro-Americans in New Jersey: A Short History, by Giles R. Wright, explores the role of blacks in New Jersey from the 1600s to the modern era. The 100-page book, published in 1998, includes illustrations, maps, statistical tables, and bibliography.

Both titles are available from BooksNJ, PO Box 307, 225 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625-0307; Telephone (609) 943-4444; Fax: (609) 292-9105. The order form is available on the website: www.BooksNJ.com. The Karnoutsos book sells for \$9.00 and the Wright book for \$8.00.



ARCHIVES EXPANDS HOLDINGS OF ESTATE, COURT RECORDS

Last September, the State Archives announced a major expansion of its holdings of estate and court records. The acquisition consists of records of the Superior, Prerogative, and Chancery Courts, including several thousand reels of wills and estate papers on microfilm. The Archives' prior holdings for state-level and colony-level courts date back to 1704, when the Supreme Court of the Royal Colony of New Jersey was established. The expanded holdings include:

Wills, 1901-1952: The State Archives' acquisition of twentieth-century wills is a long-awaited and much-welcomed development in the world of genealogy. More than 2,200 microfilm reels of wills were transferred to the State

Archives, in addition to 371 drawers of corresponding card indexes. This includes all wills filed with the Superior Court of New Jersey by the respective county surrogates, as was required by law. The accession represents an addition of approximately 400,000 will packets to the State Archives' holdings of estate records, which now span a period greater than 280 years.

Prerogative Court records through 1948: Prior to the 1948 reorganization of New Jersey's courts under the current state constitution, the Prerogative Court of New Jersey had jurisdiction over disputed estates and certain divisions of property. The court heard appeals from county Orphans Courts and adjudicated original cases for estates with real property in two or more counties. In July and August, the Archives accessioned 114 boxes, 14 volumes, and 291 reels of microfilm of Prerogative Court records, constituting the remainder of the court's filings, all earlier records having come to the Archives decades ago. The State Archives now holds all case files, dockets, and indexes of this pre-1948 court.

NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 24, 1900.

\$1,000.00 Reward

LEFT HOME.

EDWIN STERNKOPF, 51 years old; 6 feet high; 160 pounds weight. Missing since August 2, 1898; last seen at Long Branch. Gray moustache, clipped short; quite bald-headed; high cheek bones; fairly good teeth; wore dark sack coat and vest, gray striped pants, balbriggan undershirt, black socks and gaiters, size 8 or 9; home-made black socks, with 4 white stitches on top; undershirt also marked.

The above reward will be paid for any information that will lead to the finding of said party, dead or alive.

Address all communications to



EDWIN STERNKOPF.

PREROGATIVE COURT EVIDENCE: The family of Edwin Sternkopf offered a reward for information concerning his mysterious disappearance in this 1900 newspaper advertisement. The notice was submitted to the Prerogative Court of New Jersey as evidence in an estate case seeking to have Sternkopf declared legally dead.

Chancery Court records to 1886: The Chancery Court of New Jersey exercised equity jurisdiction under the pre-1948 court system. The court was established in the colonial period to docket cases involving property disputes and foreclosures, divorce, lunacy proceedings, and contractual disputes. As part of the recent court records transfer, the State Archives received 1,085 boxes and 16 volumes of Chancery records, thus extending the Archives' court holdings to the year 1886. While the Archives had accessioned most of the pre-1850 records of the Chancery Court many decades ago, the "new" material includes cases dating back to the 1790s.

In addition to the judicial records mentioned above, the Archives maintains extensive collections for the other state courts (Supreme, Oyer & Terminer, Circuit, Errors, and Appeals) as well as records of courts administered on the county level (Common Pleas, Quarter Sessions, and Orphans Court).

For more information, consult the Archives' judicial records page at <http://www.njarchives.org/links/webcat/judiciary.html>, or the county records page at <http://www.njarchives.org/links/webcat/county.html>.

Court records, especially cases involving land disputes and estates, have tremendous research value for historians and genealogists alike. All of the records recently received are accessible in the State Archives' research rooms. The Archives staff are available to assist researchers with use of the indexes, dockets, and case records. Researchers may also request copies of records from indexed collections by mail: the charge is \$5.00 for a will packet (up to 10 pages; \$1.00 per additional page), and \$1.00 per page for records of the Prerogative and Chancery Courts. Send requests to New Jersey State Archives, P.O. Box 307, 225 West State St., Trenton, NJ 08625-0307.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION TO PRESENT EIGHT AWARDS AT CONVENTION

The New Jersey Historical Commission will present its 2003 annual awards at the History Issues Convention in March. The awards were originally scheduled to be presented at the NJHC annual conference on December 6, 2003, which was snowed out.

The Commission's top award, the **Richard J. Hughes Award** for lifetime achievement, will be presented to **Professor David Cowell** of Drew University, a founder and current president of the Advocates for New Jersey History.

The **Richard P. McCormick Prize**, awarded to the author of an outstanding scholarly work on any topic in New Jersey history, goes to **Professor Steve Golin** of Bloomfield College for his book, *The Newark Teacher Strikes: Hopes On the Line*, published by Rutgers University Press in 2002.

Six **Awards of Recognition** will be presented for outstanding recent work to promote the study, presentation, preservation, and popularization of New Jersey history. The award recipients are:

Sara Cureton, for her many accomplishments as the executive director of the Absecon Lighthouse, a state-owned historic site leased by the Inlet Public/Private Association.

The Division of Parks and Forestry, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the **Road to Monmouth Partnership**, for their work on the impressive and successful celebration of the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth campaign.

Howell Living History Farm, located in Titusville, for its excellent living history programming for both children and adults.

Lawnside Historical Society, Lawnside, for its work to save an important site associated with the history of African Americans in New Jersey, the Peter Mott House.

Save Lucy Committee, Margate, for its successful campaign to save an important historic site and interpret it for the public.



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

James E. McGreevey
Governor

Regena L. Thomas
Secretary of State

Susan Bass Levin
Community Affairs Commissioner



New Jersey State Archives
Karl Niederer, Director
PO Box 307
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
(609) 292-6260
Fax (609) 292 9105
www.njarchives.org

The Division of Archives and Records Management has overall responsibility for the efficient management and preservation of all records produced by New Jersey state, county, and local government agencies.




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The mission of the New Jersey Historical Commission is to advance public knowledge of the history of New Jersey through grants, conferences, research, publications, and media projects.



New Jersey Historic Trust
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www.njht.org

The mission of the New Jersey Historic Trust is to advance the preservation of the state's historic properties through financial, educational, and stewardship programs.



**The Newsletter of the New Jersey
Historical Commission, the Historic Trust
and the State Archives**

Editor
Sharon Hazard

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